

By: Farrar

H.R. No. 1445

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The observance of Women's History Month during March
2 2015 provides an ideal opportunity to acknowledge the historic
3 contributions made by women in the Lone Star State and beyond; and

4 WHEREAS, Since the founding of the Texas Republic, women have
5 played crucial roles in the social, economic, and cultural spheres;
6 Texas women participated in the abolitionist movement, and they not
7 only secured their own right to vote, but have also worked in behalf
8 of all citizens to promote equal opportunity, civil rights, peace,
9 and justice; and

10 WHEREAS, The first woman to run for the United States Senate
11 was a Texas suffragette, Minnie Fisher Cunningham, who served as
12 the founding executive secretary of the League of Women Voters; in
13 1910, women's rights activist Hortense Sparks Ward became the first
14 woman to pass the Texas bar exam; Fort Worth philanthropist Edna
15 Gladney advocated for child welfare and secured passage of state
16 legislation granting equal inheritance rights to adopted children
17 and banishing the word "illegitimate" from birth certificates; and

18 WHEREAS, Later in the 20th century, Oveta Culp Hobby became
19 the first director of the Women's Army Corps; Frances T. "Sissy"
20 Farenthold championed civil rights and women's rights as a Texas
21 state representative and gubernatorial candidate; she went on to
22 become a national figure in the human rights movement in the 1980s,
23 and she continues her endeavors today; other Texas women who have
24 left an indelible imprint include the state's second female

1 governor, Ann Richards, pioneering African American congresswoman
2 Barbara Jordan, and Emma Tenayuca, a leader of oppressed workers in
3 the Mexican American community; and

4 WHEREAS, Another leader, Dolores Huerta, has had an
5 immeasurable influence around the country through her success as a
6 community organizer and an advocate for the working poor, children,
7 and women; cofounder of the National Farmworkers Association, she
8 has been honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom; and

9 WHEREAS, The strength of our nation depends heavily on the
10 continued advancement of women; by acknowledging the enormous
11 positive impact they have made, we encourage future generations to
12 ensure that gender is not an obstacle that must be overcome on the
13 road to achievement; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize March as Women's History Month and
16 celebrate the contributions made by women to this state and nation.